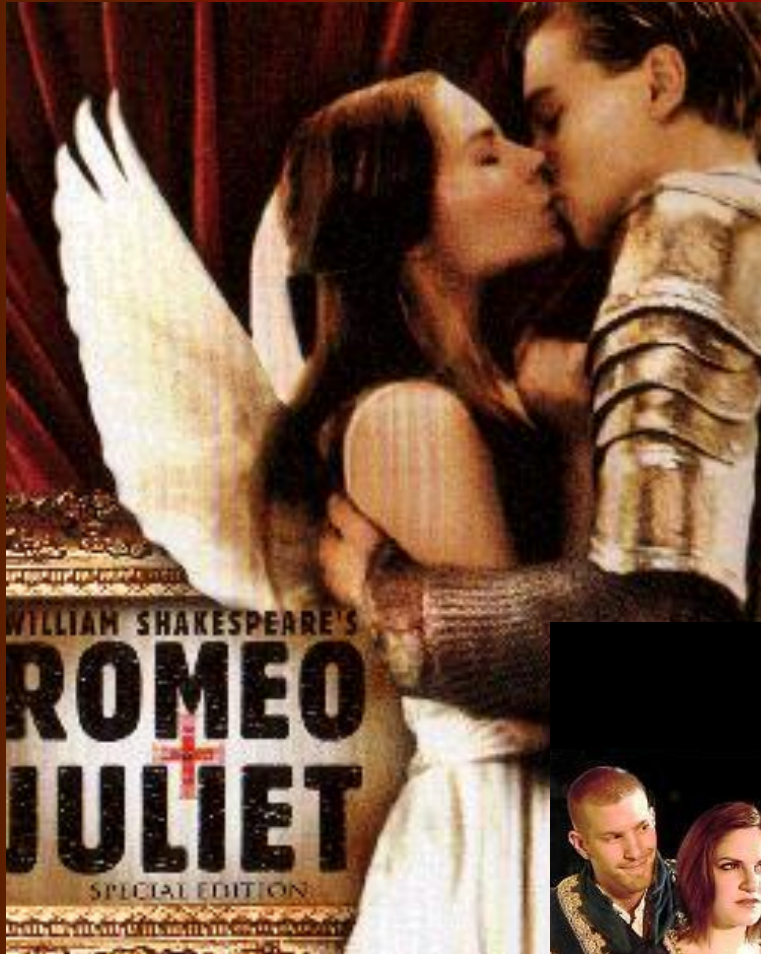


Ways to Teach Shakespeare



Passionate about
Shakespeare or
are you?

Shakespeare's
plays:

1. Feel like...

2. Sound like...

3. Look like...



*"Reading Shakespeare
requires the
imagination and
daring capacity to
entertain ambiguity
and the paradoxes of
human life and
history...to imagine
the complex lives of
powerfully historicized
human beings"*
Metzger.

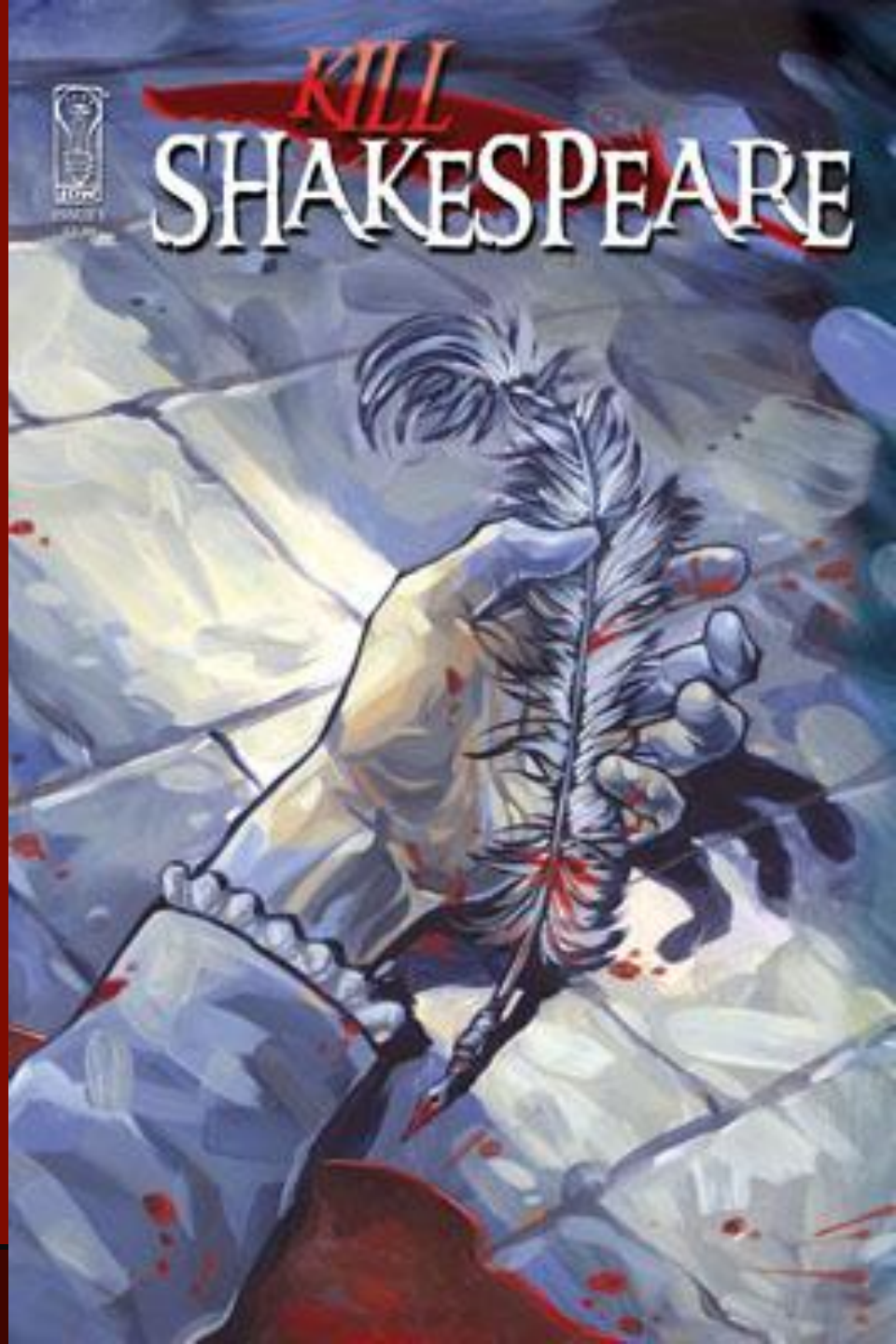


*"Shakespeare's
timeless and
universal
appeal lies in
the breadth of
his creative
vision and the
depth of his
humanity"*
John Bell.



The Play is the Thing!

- ❖ Reading the play around the class is counterproductive!
- ❖ Opportunities to perform, view, 'play' and listen are essential for student engagement



Power of Story

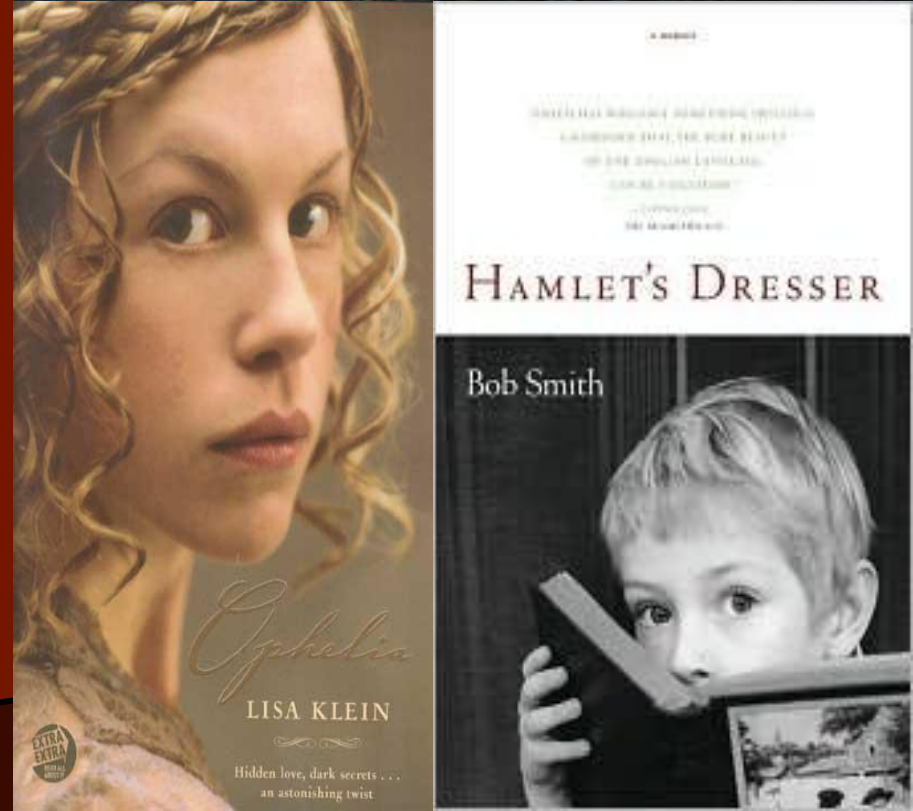
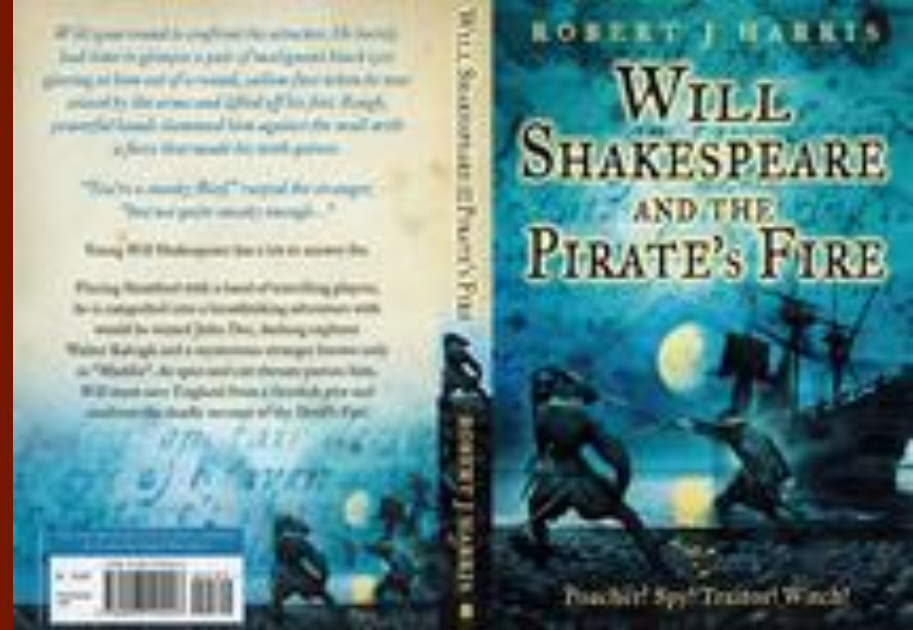
- ❖ Narrative : Start with the rich stories
- ❖ Faction: Using 'facts' to create an imaginative text, such as Paris' story in *Romeo & Juliet*
- ❖ "How would you feel if you woke up as a donkey..."

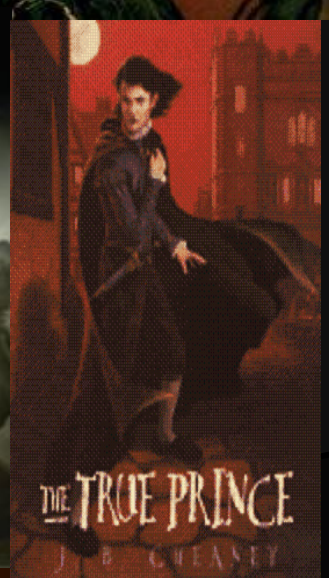
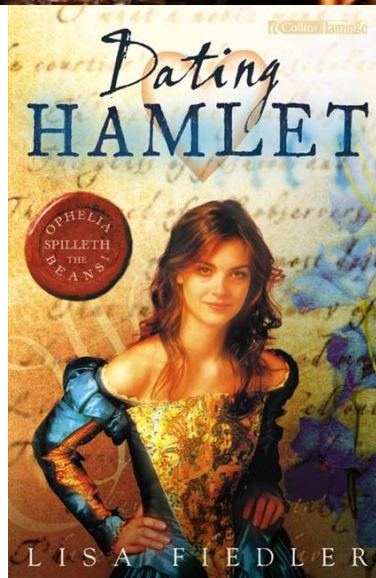
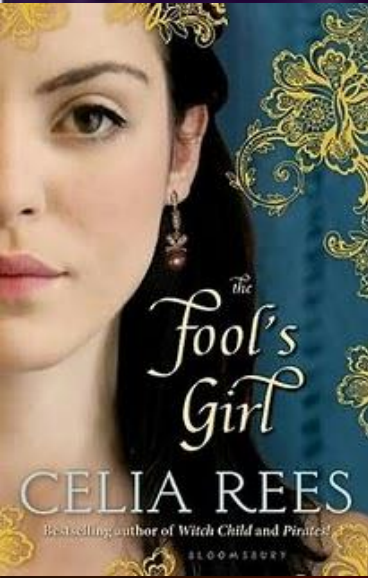
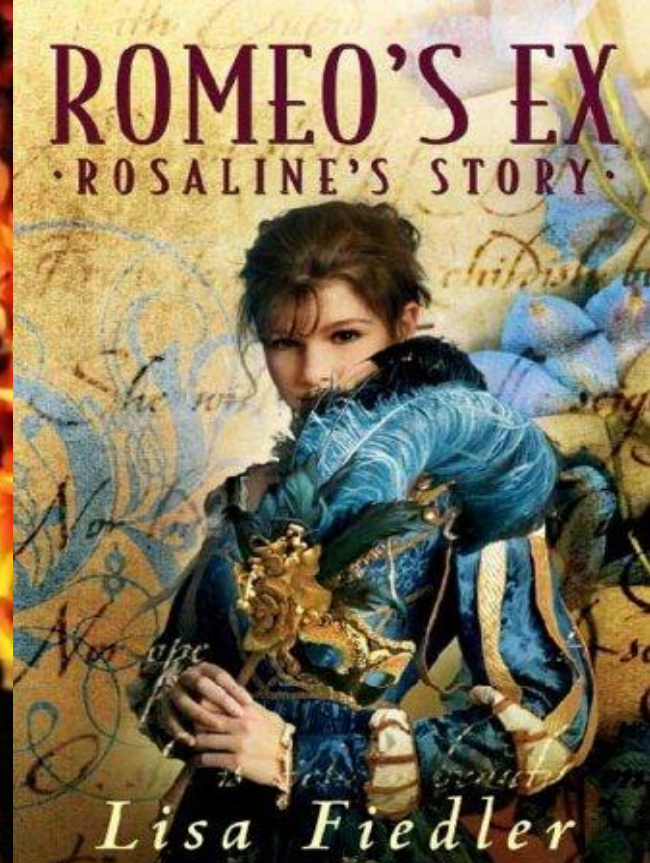
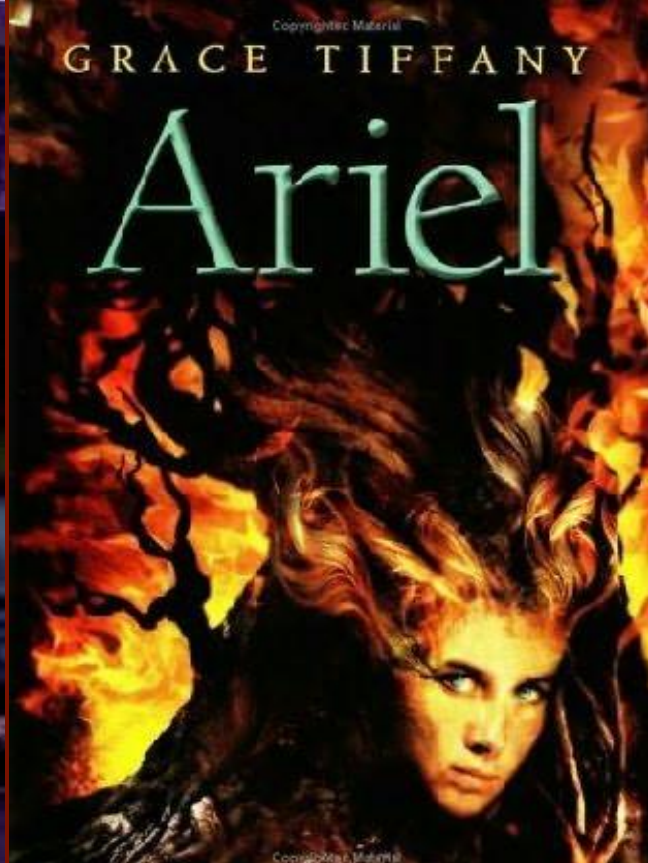
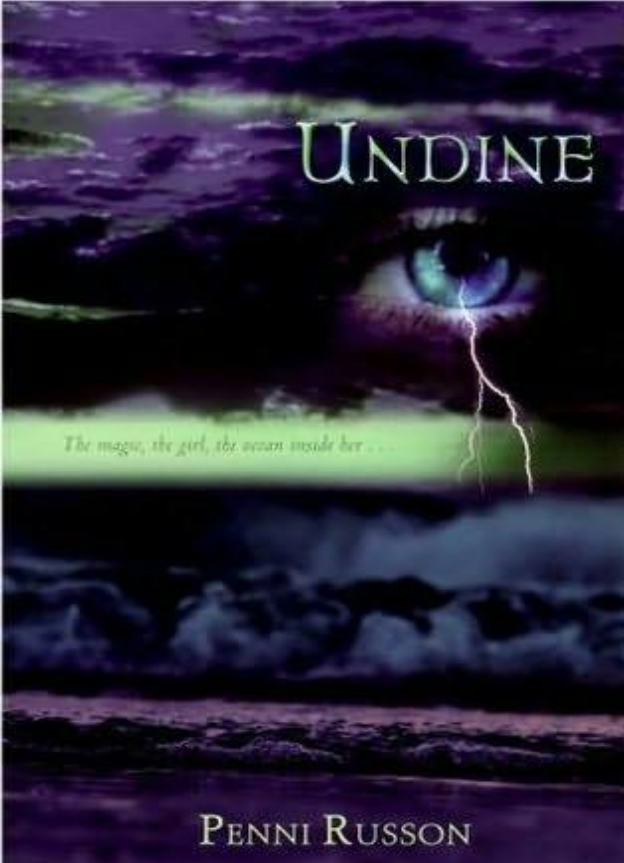


Power of Story

Transformations:

- ❖ *Macbeth and Son*
- ❖ *The Third Witch*
- ❖ *Will Shakespeare and the Pirates' Fire*
- ❖ *Ophelia*
- ❖ *The Daughter of Time*
- ❖ *Hamlet's Dresser*
- ❖ *The Shakespeare Stealer*
- ❖ *Manga*





Small Steps

- ❖ Begin with extracts from the plays and films – the Craft!
- ❖ Representation of Shakespeare's villains, women or fools
- ❖ Characterisation



Performance

Performance:

- ❖ Blank verse: Beat of the lines and emphasis on key words
- ❖ Focus on character/s and motivation
- ❖ Key extracts focused on motivation or passion
- ❖ Stagecraft



Craft

- ❖ Rhetoric:
- ❖ The soliloquies
- ❖ Purpose, audience and power of rhetoric
- ❖ Henry V's Saint Crispin's Day Speech & Barack Obama's victory speech



Resonance

Holds up a mirror: “This thing of darkness, I acknowledge mine”
Prospero, *The Tempest*.

- ❖ Focus on human flaws: “Lord what fools these mortals be” (Puck): ambition, jealousy, passion, impetuosity, greed, revenge
- ❖ Shakespeare’s values: moderation, tolerance, reconciliation, acceptance



Stage 4: Introduction to Shakespeare

- ❖ Use the rich stories & fascinating characters
- ❖ Shakespearean Sleuths provided with clues, images & quotes
- ❖ Focus on the richness of the language through soliloquies & extracts
- ❖ Move to performance & transformation



Stage 4: Introduction to Shakespeare

Clues:

- ❖ Young prince returns from university to find his father has died and his mother has married his uncle.
- ❖ Ghost appears before Hamlet.
- ❖ Hamlet is rude and offensive to girlfriend Ophelia.
- ❖ **Quotes:**
- ❖ "Something is rotten in the state of Denmark."
- ❖ "The serpent that did sting thy father's life Now wears his crown."
- ❖ "Get thee to a nunnery: why wouldst thou be a breeder of sinners?"
- ❖ "Now cracks a noble heart. Good night sweet prince..."



Using Images



Characterisation

- ❖ Focus on the crafting of one character: motivation, values, actions, etc
- ❖ Create own original character using the same process



Representation

- ❖ Shakespeare's fools, warrior kings, villains or women
- ❖ Digital representation of a Shakespearian sonnet or a character
- ❖ Curio box for a character
- ❖ Museum Box: <http://museumbox.e2bn.org/>

Macbeth



Shakespearean Banquet

- ❖ Coming as one of Shakespeare's characters to a banquet:
- Stay in character
- Elizabethan food



Web 20 Tools

- ❖ <http://www.pbs.org/shakespeare/#>
- ❖ <http://shakespeare.palomar.edu/educational.htm>
- ❖ <http://www.folger.edu/eduLesPlanArch.cfm>
- ❖ Readings of Shakespeare's Sonnets,
http://town.hall.org/Archives/radio/IMS/HarperAudio/020994_harp_ITH.html
- ❖ <http://www.shakespeares-globe.org/>
- Open Source of Plays with all character quotes:
<http://www.opensourceshakespeare.org/>
- Virtual Macbeth: <http://virtualmacbeth.wikispaces.com/>
- Macbeth Second Life:
<http://virtualworlds.nmc.org/portfolio/virtualmacbeth/> and
<http://www.kingmacbeth.com/second-life.htm>

Stage 6

- ❖ Audio recordings
- ❖ Jigsaw or cafes: characters; key scenes; significant ideas – experts!
- ❖ Hot seating
- ❖ Framing through the concepts
- ❖ Quality resources

